Faculty Awards and Recognition Ceremony

Monday, May 23, 2022

University Center Complex

FACULTY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Welcome

Jianmin Qu
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Faculty Honorary Degree
Master of Engineering (Honoris Causa)

Hongjun Wang
Professor and Chair, Department of Biomedical Engineering,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science

Retiree Recognition

Linda Vollkommer
Associate Professor, Athletics

William Robinson
Teaching Professor, School of Systems and Enterprises

Gregg Vesonder
Teaching Professor, School of Systems and Enterprises

Suphan Kovenklioglu
Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science

Nuran Kumbaraci
Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science

Keith Sheppard
Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science

Young Investigator Awards

National Science Foundation CAREER Awards

Steven Hoffenson
Assistant Professor, School of Systems and Enterprises
Multidisciplinary and Life-Cycle Holistic Sustainable Design

Jinho Kim
Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science
Biomechanics of Tension-Induced Lung Tissue Fracture and Subsequent Pulmonary Air Leak

Kathrin Smetana
Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematical Sciences,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science
Randomized Multiscale Methods for Heterogeneous Nonlinear Partial Differential Equations

Lu Xiao
Assistant Professor, School of Systems and Enterprises
An AI-Empowered Architecture-Centric Framework for Systematic Software-Performance Optimization

Annie Xian Zhang
Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science
Investigation of Thermal Transport in Moiré Pattern Structured Materials to Push the Extremes of Thermal Modulation

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NASA Early Career Faculty Awards

Paul Grogan
Assistant Professor, School of Systems and Enterprises
Co-Simulation for Partnerships to Observe Convective Storm Systems

National Institutes of Health Maximizing Investigators' Research Awards (MIRA)

Abhishek Sharma
Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science
Novel Acylborons and Alpha-Hydroxy Borons to Enable Modular, Regio- and Stereocontrolled Synthesis of Bioactive Molecules and Protein Conjugates

Shang Wang
Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science
Multi-Contrast Dynamic Optical Imaging to Advance Live Developmental Biology

2022 Faculty Awards

See listing on pages 4 and 5

Closing Remarks

Nariman Farvardin
President

Reception

Award for Research Excellence

Dibyendu Sarkar, Professor, Department of Civil, Environmental and Ocean Engineering,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science

Early Career Award for Research Excellence

Paul Grogan, Assistant Professor,
School of Systems and Enterprises

Hang Liu, Assistant Professor,
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science

Jess H. Davis Memorial Award for Research Excellence

Alex Wellerstein, Associate Professor,
College of Arts and Letters

Henry Morton Distinguished Teaching Professor Award

Peter Dominick, Teaching Professor,
School of Business

Harvey N. Davis Distinguished Teaching Assistant Professor Award

Raviraj Nataraj, Assistant Professor,
Department of Biomedical Engineering,
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science

Award for Excellence in Online Teaching

Earl Sprague, Lecturer,
School of Systems and Enterprises

Award for Distinguished University Service

Billy Middleton, Teaching Associate Professor,
College of Arts and Letters

Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising/Mentoring

Majeed Simaan, Assistant Professor,
School of Business

Professor Hongjun Wang

Faculty Honorary Degree, Master of Engineering (Honoris Causa)
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science

Professor Hongjun Wang, a member of the Stevens Institute of Technology faculty since 2005, is an internationally recognized scholar who is the founding chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering in the Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science and has developed technologies that have the potential to transform healthcare.

Dr. Wang's research focuses on the design of innovative implants, multiscale tissue reconstruction, the creation of a 3D in-vitro pathophysiological tissue model, nanomedicine and regenerative medicine. Dr. Wang has published extensively in respected international peer-reviewed journals. He has authored more than 110 peer-reviewed publications in archival journals, 11 book chapters and one book and has received three United States patents, in addition to several pending patents. He has delivered more than 100 invited talks to conferences and various institutions. He was also invited to deliver multiple keynote addresses at international conferences.

His research has been well supported by various agencies within the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation and by the New Jersey Health Foundation, among other respected organizations. In addition to his own research, Dr. Wang is involved in efforts to transfer promising technologies to the marketplace, working closely with small companies, training future entrepreneurs and participating in venture capital and entrepreneurship activities.

As the chair of the biomedical engineering department since its founding in January 2018, Dr. Wang has demonstrated outstanding dedication, developing the department by recruiting stellar faculty and staff, upgrading research and teaching facilities, cultivating a collegial and supportive environment, streamlining advising and mentoring services and enhancing student-faculty interactions. Under his leadership, undergraduate enrollment and research funding have increased significantly, paving the way for the department to continue to thrive.

Dr. Wang was elected a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors in 2019. He also received the Innovators Award from the New Jersey Innovators Hall of Fame in 2016. At Stevens, he was recognized with the Jess H. Davis Memorial Award for Research Excellence in 2009, 2015 and 2021, and the Provost's Award for Academic Entrepreneurship in 2017. He is an associate editor of the Journal of Nanoscience Letters and serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Biotechnology and Biomaterials and the International Journal of Nanomedicine and Nanosurgery.

Known as an outstanding educator with a devotion to high standards and an enthusiastic commitment to his students, Dr. Wang has graduated 15 Ph.D. students and mentored nine postdoctoral fellows, in addition to advising more than 80 undergraduates and more than 40 graduate students in collaborative research. Many of these students have become leading scientists in the field, serving as university faculty, research scientists and medical doctors.

Dr. Wang holds a Bachelor of Science in polymer chemistry and master's and doctoral degrees in polymer chemistry and physics from Nankai University in China. He also earned a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Twente in Netherlands.

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